

DAILY PLANET

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS

Tuesday, April 1

1997

A Quick Look at STS-83

Orbiter - Columbia

Launch - Thursday, 1:01 p.m. CST, KSC

Landing - Saturday, April 19, 6:30 a.m. CDT, KSC

Crew - Commander Jim Halsell

Pilot Susan Still

Payload Commander Janice Voss

Mission Specialist Mike Gernhardt

Mission Specialist Don Thomas

Payload Specialist Roger Crouch

Payload Specialist Greg Linteris



Highlights - During the 16-day Marshall-managed Microgravity Science Laboratory mission, the crew and science teams on the ground will conduct microgravity research in the fields of biotechnology, materials science, combustion science and fluid physics. The mission, which will be controlled from Marshall, also sets the stage for the International Space Station, testing hardware and procedures planned for the Space Station.

Retirement Seminar Set

The Career Training Assistance Program Center (CTAPC) will hold a retirement planning seminar 9 - 11 a.m. Thursday in Bldg. 4723, Room 115. The session is open to Marshall employees and spouses, co-ops and interns. To register, or for more information, **contact:** CTAPC, 4-2400.

Super Lightweight Fuel Tank Successfully Completes Testing

The first new, super lightweight, external fuel tank for the Space Shuttle has successfully completed proof pressure tests that verify its design. The new external tank is the same size as the one currently used on the Space Shuttle — but about 7,500 pounds lighter. "Each pound we remove from the external tank is a pound that can be added to the payload," said Parker Counts, project manager at Marshall.